

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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53

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-07 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-07 /084 W

----- 052163

R 311210Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4003

C O N F I D E N T I A L TUNIS 6081

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KN, KS, US, TS

SUBJECT: REACTIONS TO PANMUNJOM INCIDENT

1. PANMUNJOM IS A LONG WAY FROM TUNIS AND LOCAL REACTWON TO THE INCIDENT IN WHICH TWO U.S. OFFICERS WERE KILLED HAVE REFLECTED THIS FACT. THERE HAS BEEN NO LOCAL EDITORIAL COMMENT ON THE EVENT AND MEDIA COVERAGE HAS BEEN LIMITED TO STRAIGHT REPORTING DRAWN FROM INTERNATIONAL NEWS SERVICE SOURCES. THIS COVERAGE HAS NOT BEEN EXTENSIVE AND HAS REFLECTED GREATER CONCERN OVER THE POSSIBILITY OF A CONFRONTATION BETWEEN THE U.S. AND NORTH KOREA THAN INDIGNATION OVER THE MURDERS THEMSELVES.

2. PRIVATELY, WE BELIEVE SENIOR GOT OFFICIALS VIEW THE INCIDENT AS AN ACT OF NORTH KOREAN BRUTALITY AND PROVOCATION. OFFICIALLY, HOWEVER, THERE HAS BEEN NO PUBLIC STATEMENT, AND WE DOUBT THAT THERE WILL BE ANY. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THE INCIDENT HAS HAD OR WILL HAVE SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON POSITION GOT MIGHT TAKE AT UN.

3. WE KNOW FROM EMBASSY COLOMBO REPORTING THAT TUNISIA SPOKE IN FAVOR OF CAR DRAFT AMENDMENT TO PROPOSED DECLARATION ON KOREA AND THAT GOT OPPOSES RADICAL AND HARDLINE APPROACH ON KOREAN QUESTION.

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HOWEVER, IT IS TOO EARLY TO PREDICT WITH CERTAINTY

WHAT GOT'S FINAL POSITION AT UNGA WILL BE, BUT IT WILL
BE CONDITIONED BY EVENTS AS THEY UNFOLD BETWEEN NOW
AND UNGA CONSIDERATION OF SPECIFIC RESOLUTIONS, AND
BY POSITIONS TAKEN BY OTHER MODERATE NON-ALIGNED STATES.
MULCAHY

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NNN

Message Attributes

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